Sheo Khetan has degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Business Admin. He has been retired since 2005. He started watching films in the 50s and was mesmerized by them. He has written many books on films.

Hindi Films: The Stars Of 1938-40 Films:

Part 4

Sheo Khetan

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On the Cover:
First Row: Kanhaiya Lal, Prabha
Second Row: Protima Devi, Sunalini Devi
Third Row: Renuka Devi, Nurjehan

By professor toofaanii publishers, East Lansing, MI USA

DEDICATION

Dedicated to the early pioneers of Indian cinema without whom Bollywood as we know today would not have been possible.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to Thank my wife Nirmala and children, Sanjay, Saurabh Sameer and Sudhir, two daughters in laws, Deepa (Sanjay's wife), and Sarmili (Sudhir's wife) and 4 grandkids Jaiden and Dilan (born in Kovid), Deepa's children and Shreyashi and Koushik (born in Kovid), Sarmili's children for their support.

I would like to thank Professor Surjit Singh for the opportunity to finish the book and always be there with valuable support.

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Sheo Khetan
Martinsville, NJ
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PROLOGUE

I am so proud in getting this book on stars of 1938-40, who you have seen in my pictorial book "Hindi Films: Pictures of the cast II (1938-40)" published in 2021. Now this book Describes these actors' life and other movies they acted in

Among the stars covered in this book, the first one is the true giant of Hindi Films, Mr. Sohrab Modi. Even though some movies of him came out earlier, we recognized him in this book because we had had no access to his movies. The three movies that started his journey toward the top started with one in this period. The movie "Pukar" (39) was such a story, well-acted, that put his name in the movie world in top. His "Jailor"(38) was a good psychodramatic movie Naseem Banu closely tied to Sohrab Modi had the same story. Her first film available to us was "Pukar" (39). She played the role of Jahangir's (played by the top hero of that era, Mr. Chandramohan) wife, who is to be hanged because of fatally killing a fisherman, whose wife raised the question of Justice to her husband.

Kishore Sahu was active in this period. He acted in a Bombay Talkies movie "Punarmillan"(40), which was quite successful. So far, his acting ability was recognized, but his directorial success would be recognized later in his other movies

Renuka Devi acted in a Bombay Talkies movie "Bhabhi"(38)

In other hero part was done by the famous star of that time, Arun Kumar Ahuja, participated in Mehboob's "Aurat" a movie which was a precursor to the famous movie "Mother India" Similarly Snehprabha Pradhan also got her acting talent recognized in "Punarmllan"(1940). Not only did she get praise for her acting, but she stole the bachelor hero's heart. Snhprabha and Kishore Sahu were married

Another player was Ashalata Bishwas, who played a lead role in 'Jwala' against Chandramohan and Master Vinayak and 'Premveer" (hero Master Vinayak). Later on, she married the famous Music Director Anil Biswas.

Among supporting actors, the three who comes as the most famous are Kanhaiyyalal, Pratima devi, and Sunalini Devi. First Kamhaiyyalal, the person who played a role of the cruel "Village Sahukar" in the movie "Aurat". He played the same role in remake of the movie "Mother India"

Then Pratima Devi who came to the screen to play MOTHER's role. Not only she played a role of mother in "bhabhi"(1938), but she has the distinction of playing mother to much elder actors like Prithviraj Kapoor in Vailmiki' , but also the role of mother of V Shantaram in "Dr kotnis ki Amar Kahani"

Then Sunalini Devi, who was from a well-respected family (sister to Sarojini Naidu and elder sister to Harindranath Chattopadhyay) played support roles , like "Aurat" (40)

Then the other character actor like Amir Banoo, Sunder, Ashik Hussain, Noorjehan sr, Prakash Khemchand, Rama Shukul are worth naming

Noor Jehan Senior Acted in 'Payame Haq"(39), 'Na homewali Baat'(38), 'Royal commander'(38)with Ashik Hussain

Khemchand Prakash was a Music Director of repute, but he did a cameo role in the movie 'Street Singer' (38) singing 'Le lo Madam khana'

Amir Banu acted in 'Aurat'(1940) but kept on working till Daku Mansur (61). She acted in many movies.

Sunder did a total of 436 films, probably close to the highest # of movies. A comic actor from 1938-1989. He started with 'Impossible (Na Honewali Baat ' in 1938

Ashik Hussain started with Jaddanbai's company Sangeet movietone. He acted in the movie with Baby Rani, Jaddanbai's daughter, who later turned out to be famous superstar NARGIS. Given that his last name is same as Jaddanbai, I wonder if he was related to her, but could not confirm.

Rama Shukul was a Bombay Talikes employee. He was a hero against Devika Rani in 'Durga' but was soon reduced to character actor. He did only 20 movies

HINDI FILM STARS

Ameena

Ameena was an Indian actress from the early talkie era who was born in Delhi. Her parents were from Gujarat, but her businessman father moved to Delhi for a better future. She was homeschooled in Urdu, Gujarati, and Persian. She was a tomboyish girl and showed keen interest in horse riding, swimming, and wrestling. Her parents fully cooperated with her. She took lessons in dancing and singing and worked for the Great Royal circus company and later, The Orient circus. She toured many big cities and towns of India. She was good at aerobics and tightrope walking. She developed some health problems and, on her doctor's advice, she bid farewell to the circus and joined films. Memorable films to her credit include The Mill (1934), Typist Girl (1935) and Dil (1946). Her last released film was perhaps Lottery (1949). (Some of the Information has been taken from "The Lost Treasure: Early Hindustani Talkies – Kamalakar Pasupuleti and Professor Surjit Singh – an excellent Book available on Amazon.com")

total films 27

First film Tiger of Rajputana 1932 Last film Lottery 1949

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported			
total	8	6	13

Amir Banu

(or Amir Jan)
Total films 50
First film Aurut 1940 Last film Dakoo Mansoor 1961
Amir Bano was born in Lyallpur Punjab (present faislabad) in 1916 she knew Urdu very well, after facing many hardships she decided to go to Bombay and in 1937 first time became an employee of Mohan studios.
She was also known as Amir Jan

year		pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported			1	10
total			6	44

Anwari

Actress Anwari was from a Tawayaf family of Lucknow. She started her acting career with the film Heer Ranjha-32 opposite Rafiq Ghaznavi and then she acted in film Pooran Bhagat-1932, along with K L Saigal. She played the role of Rani Uchharan.

She joined East India Film co. and worked in films like Aurat ka pyar-33, Night Bird-34, Nagin-34 and Mumtaz Begum-34. She had also acted in another NT film Chandidas-34. She shifted her base to Bombay and worked in several films for the next four decades. Her last film was Chaitali-1975. In all she did 140 films. She was known as ' Pride of Lucknow' during her peak period. She was credited variously as Anwari Begum, Anwari, and Anwari bai.

Actress Anwari was the second wife of Rafiq Ghaznavi with whom he had a daughter, Zarina. Later, Zarina changed her name to Nasreen and worked in director A.R. Kardar's movie, 'Shah Jehan' and Daud Chand's movie, 'Aik Roaz.' Later Zarina married Liaqat Gul Agha, a rich Jeweler of Pakistan and they settled in London. She became Zarina Agha. Further, Zarina Agha's daughter, Salma Agha, achieved a great name and fame as a singing star. She expired somewhere in the early 80s.

Anwari and Rafiq Ghaznavi were divorced (or separated) after Zarina/Nasreen's birth, and Anwari then married a rich Hindu businessman named Jugal Kishore Mehra (Maternal uncle-Mama- of Raj Kapoor). To marry Anwari, Jugal Kishore Mehra abandoned not only his family but also his religion; he became a Muslim and took the name Ahmed Salman. Since Anwari had a child, Jugal Kishore Mehra effectively became the father of the infant Zarina/Nasreen.

Total films 71
First Film Heer Ranjha 1934 Last Film Buddha Mil Gaya 1971

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported			5
total	11	8	52

Aroon (Kumar Ahuja)

Born January 26, 1918, in Gujranwala, Punjab, British India
Died April 7, 1998 in Mahim, India (heart attack)
Birth Name Arun Kumar Ahuja
Total Films 33
First Film Bhole Bhale 1936 Last Film Aulad 1954

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		3	2
total	1	5	27

Arun Kumar Ahuja or Aroon was born as Gulshan Singh Ahuja in Gujranwala, Punjab, present-day Pakistan in 1917. He took a degree in engineering from Mughalpura Engineering College in Lahore in 1937.He won the best football player in his college. Mehboob Khan came to Lahore to find new talent and found Ahuja to be well-built, Athletic, dashing and handsome and selected him amongst 100 candidates and selected Ahuja as the leading man in his film Ek Hi Raasta in 1939. He appeared in 33 films in both leading and supporting roles. He was perhaps best known for appearing in Mehboob Khan's 1940 film Aurat which was the predecessor of the Oscar nominated 1957 remake Mother India.

He was married to singer and actress Nirmala Devi and is the father of actor Govinda.

He was playing leading and supporting roles for film banners such as National Studios, Ranjit Studios and Sagar Movietone. He also sang in most of his films as was the tradition in those days before professional singers were used for playback singing.

He was paired with actresses such as Shobhana Samarth, Monica Desai and Khursheed Bano throughout his career. He made a popular pairing with his wife Nirmala Devi in several films such as Savera (1942), Chalis Karod (1946) and Ghunghat (1946).

He got married to Nirmala on May 5, 1945

In 1948, he set up his own production company named Arun Productions and produced and starred in the film Sehra (1948). This film was a box office failure and Arun's career went into decline.

By the early 1950s, Arun was acting less frequently and made his last film appearance in Aulad (1954). The only film he had produced was a box office disaster which resulted in him selling off his Bungalow in Mumbai's Carter Road in Bandra and shifting his entire family to a chawl in Virar, His health failed during this time and his wife Nirmala had to work as a singer on radio and touring concerts to provide for the family of three daughters and two sons.

Ahuja quit acting in 1954 and suffered from poor health after the failure of his home production.

His youngest son Govinda (born 1963) would go on to become a successful actor decades later in the 1980s and 1990s and his other son Kirti Kumar became a director and occasional actor. Several of his grandchildren would go on to become actors in the film and television industry including Vinay Anand, Krishna Abhishek, Ragini Khanna, Aarti Singh, Soumya Seth, and Tina Ahuja. His daughter Padma is the mother of Krishna and Aarti and died in the early 1980s soon after giving birth to Aarti. His eldest daughter Pushpa who is the mother of Vinay Anand, died in 2011 aged 68.

His Son Govinda bought a house in Juhu, and moved his family to Juhu, However Arun Ahuja continued to stay in Virar. He didn't shift to Juhu.

Arun lived a reclusive life after leaving the film industry and died in 1998 at the age of 81 of a heart attack.

Naseem Banu

Born: July 4, 1916, Delhi, India
Died on June 18, 2002
Born as Roshan ara Begum
Spouse Ehsan-ul-Haq
Children **Saira Banu**, the famous actress of 60-80's, Married **Dilip Kumar**
Sultan Ahmed

Total Films 27
First Film Khoon ka Khoon 1935 Last Film Mout Khet Jawan Di 1960

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	7
total	1	4	22

Naseem Banu (4 July 1916 – 18 June 2002) was an Indian actress. She was referred to as Naseem and known as "Beauty Queen" and the "first female superstar" of Indian Cinema. Starting her acting career in the mid-1930s she continued to act till the mid-1950s. Her first film was Khoon Ka Khoon (Hamlet) (1935) with Sohrab Modi under whose Minerva Movietone banner she acted for several years. Her high point came with Modi's Pukar (1939) in which she played the role of Empress Nur Jahan. According to composer Naushad she got the sobriquet Pari-Chehra (fairy face) Naseem through the publicity advertisements of her films. She was the mother of actress Saira Banu and mother-in-law to the actor Dilip Kumar.

Naseem Banu was born as Roshan Ara Begum in Old Delhi, India, into a community of performers and entertainers. Her mother, Shamshad Begum, was a famous and well-earning singer of those days. Years later, when Naseem was in her prime, and earning a salary of Rs 3500,

she stated that her mother was, even at that time in her old age, earning more than she was. Naseem's father was the head of a wealthy, land-owning, aristocratic family and descended from royalty. He was Nawab Abdul Waheed Khan of Hasanpur.

Naseem, then named Roshan Ara Begum, studied at Queen Mary's High School, Delhi; her mother Shamshad Begum wanted her to become a doctor Naseem was keen on films and admired the actress Sulochana (Ruby Myers), ever since she had seen a film of hers, but her mother was against the idea of films. On a visit to Bombay, Naseem got interested in seeing the film shootings and at one of the sets she was approached by Sohrab Modi to play Ophelia in his film Hamlet. Her mother refused permission and Naseem went on a hunger-strike till her mother agreed. Having played the role, Naseem was unable to continue her education as the school was shocked at her acting in films, then considered a lowly profession.

Naseem returned to Bombay and signed a contract with Sohrab Modi. She had started her career with Khoon Ka Khoon (Hamlet) (1935) and went on to make several films with Modi under the Minerva Movietone banner. After acting in films like "Khan Bahadur" (1937), Talaq (Divorce) (1938), Meetha Zahar and Vasanti (1938) she started work in what became known as her most famous film Pukar in the role of Noor Jahan. To prepare for the film she went riding every day and learnt to sing. The film took over a year to complete and brought Naseem into prominence in a spectacular manner. One of her songs, "Zindagi Ka Saaz Bhi Kya Saaz Hai" became popular with the audiences The publicity of the film dealt on her beauty calling her Beauty Queen and Pari Chehra a name that was to endure over the years before passing on to her daughter Saira Banu.

After the classic Pukar, the demand for Naseem as an actress increased and she was approached by several film studios to act with them. But Sohrab Modi refused to release her from her contract. This caused some uneasiness between the two. Sheesh Mahal (1950), produced by Minerva show-cased her acting talents devoid of make-up and jewelry and clad only in simple sarees.[From Minerva Movietone, Naseem moved to Circo and then Filmistan studios where she performed in Chal Chal Re Naujawan with Ashok Kumar.

Saadat Hassan Manto in his book Ganjay Farishtey has nostalgically written lovingly about Naseem Bano and how Prince Moazam Jah, the heir apparent of the largest princely state of Hyderabad in British India had wooed her. Before her marriage to Mian Ehsan of Taj Mahal Pictures, Naseem Bano was, according to Manto, taken to Hyderabad with the consent of her mother Shamshad Bai. However, she realized after a

couple of years later that her daughter would be choked to death if left in Hyderabad. Through a shrewd move, she deceived the prince and took Naseem Bano back to the freedom of Bombay City, where she rejoined the film industry. Manto also refers to a "poster war" that later ensued between Naseem Bano and Prince Moazam Jah. During the shooting of producer Mian Ehsan's first movie Ujala Cupid's arrow struck both Naseem Bano and Mian Ehsan culminating in their marriage, which was solemnized in New Delhi away from the hustle and bustle of Bombay.

Married to Ehsan by now, the husband-wife team started Taj Mahal Pictures and made several films like Ujala (1942), Begum (1945), Mulaqat (1947), Chandni Raat (1949) and Ajeeb Ladki (1942) under the home banner. The last two were also directed by her husband, Mohammed Ehsan. However, she did a couple of action and fantasy films ("low-grade films") like Sinbad Jahazi (1952) and Baghi (1953), in which she was not accepted by the audiences. She acted in Minerva's Nausherwan-E-Adil (1957) in a small role and then quit acting. She continued to remain active, first trying her hand as a producer, and then as her daughter's dress-designer when Saira entered films with Junglee (1961).

Some of her best films are Pukar (1939), Chal Chal Re Naujawan (1944), Anokhi Ada (1948), Sheesh Mahal (1950) and Shabistan (1951). She co-starred with most of the top stars of those days like Sohrab Modi, Chandra Mohan, Prithviraj Kapoor, Ashok Kumar, Shyam, Surendra, Navin Yagnik, Prem Adib, and Rehman. It was during the shooting of Shabistan (1951) that the famous actor Shyam had a fall from the horseback and died. She was one of the costume designers for the film Purab Aur Paschim (1970).

Naseem and Ehsan had two children, a daughter Saira Banu[13] and a son, Late Sultan Ahmed (1939 - 2016). Naseem's husband opted to leave India and settle in Pakistan following Partition. Naseem stayed back in India with her children. Ehsan took the negatives of her films releasing the films in Pakistan where she had a following because of it. Naseem moved to England and stayed there for some time with both her son and daughter studying there for a while. Naseem helped Dilip Kumar and Saira Banu get married according to the Times of India report with the 44-year-old Kumar marrying a 22-year-old Saira Banu. However, in the Stardust interview Naseem stated that she was surprised at the two getting married as she thought that Dilip Kumar was a "confirmed bachelor" though she had noted the interest Kumar was taking in Saira Banu.

Naseem died on 18 June 2002 in Mumbai at the age of 85.

Her great-granddaughter is Sayyesha through Sultan Ahmed.

Ashalata Biswas

Ashalata Vishwas (Born: 17 September1917, Bhuj-Died: May 26, 1992) The heroine of the 40 s and 50 s The singer and filmmaker, who was the first wife of famous musician Anil Vishwas ji, belonged to the famous Khoja community of Bombay. She was the youngest of five siblings. She joined the movies to help the family. She was well written and was interested in joining the film industry since childhood. She used to speak very good Marathi, Gujarati and Sindhi and after marriage she also learned Bengali. She was originally from Bhuj and her mother tongue was Kutchi.

Her family of joining the film industry was against, but somehow, she succeeded in assuring her mother to join the film industry.

Ashalata came into movies at a young age after completing her schooling. Interestingly, her friend and classmate Shobhana Samarth also made her debut in the same year (1935). She changed her name to Mehrunisa to Ashalta when she contracted three films for Azadi, Sajeev Murthy and Sati Toral in 1935 The production of 'Azadi' started in 1934 and was released in 1935, so the same film was probably his debut film, and his hero was Vijay Kumar. At that time Ashalata ji was 18 years old. Ashalata played various roles as lead and second lead in films like Manmohan (1936) and Jwala (1938). In 1937, a famous film of Ashalata ji came out 'Premveer', which was produced in both Hindi and Marathi. He also acted with Prithviraj Kapoor in Deepak (1940).

During 1936 she married Anil Biswas (born July 7, 1914)

Ashalata was one of the glamorous stars with the Lux Bath Soap advertisement. She also worked with major studios of that time such as Bombay Talkies (Four Eyes, 1944) and Prabhat Films (Golden Bhoomi 1944).

She wanted to restrict acting after two children were born. So, she left acting and took the job of filmmaking and set up his banner ' Variety Picture s'. Ashalata Biswas with her husband also produced films like Ladli (1949), Lajawab (1950) and Hamdard (1953) under ' Variety Picture s' banner. As a filmmaker, Ashalata has produced some memorable musical films like ' Ladli ', ' Badi Bahu ', ' Lajawab ', ' Hamdard ', ' Bazuband ', which are the hit films of their time. She produced the film 'Mahaman' in which she gave her first break to Mr. Ramanand Sagar as a director. After ' Bajuband ' in 1955, she also produced the film ' Andher Nagari Chaupat Raja ' in which Gope played the lead role and she was a film heroine.

She was divorced in 1954 and after a few years. Her husband Anil Biswas

married Meena Kapoor. Her son Utpal Biswas also became a musician who played music in some films as Amar-Utpal's duo. Her son late Utpal Vishwas has composed music for films such as Shahanshah (1988) and Mai Azad Hu (1993), her daughter's name is Shikha Vohra while her granddaughter Pramita Vohra is a documentary filmmaker.

Total Films 12

First Film Sati Toral 1936 last Film Biradari 1966

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		2	
total	5	2	5

Shyam Sunder

Total Films 37
First Film Fashionable India 1935 Last Film Raj Darbar 1955

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported			4
total	3	6	28

Shyam Sunder was introduced by Krishna Film co as a child star who could also sing. In the first film Fashionable India, he sang one song.

He totally sang in 8 films (18 songs)

Some writers also give him credit for being a Music Director, but music director was Shyam Sunder Gabba who died on July, 15, 1952. He gave music in 5-7 films including 'dholak.'

Ashiq Hussain

Total Films 10
First film Dilli ka Thug 1935 Last Film Jannat 1949

Ashiq Hussain was Jaddanbai's Movie Company's, "Sangget Movietones" first Hero. He participated in movies 'Dil Darya' 1936, "Hriday Manthan" 1936, and' Jeevan Sapna ' 1937,and "Talashe .Haque" 1938. At that time Nargis also participated as child artist be the name of 'Baby Rani'

Year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported	2	3	
Total	5	6	3

Baburao Sansare

Total films 18
First film Poona Raided 1924 Last film Dilruba 1950

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		2	
total	11	2	5

Balwant Singh

Birthday December 9, 1918 Pandoga ,Hoshiarpore Distrist , Punjab(mow Himachal Pradesh Thakur Balwant Singh
Father Thakur Bishan Ckand, Mother Brahmi Devi
Married 1952 to Zubeida Begum renamed Naina Devi (still alive 4/21/2021)

Only 10th standard, Sangeet interested so beginning education Pandit Bhishma Dev(Disciple of Pt Vishnu Digamber Paluskar)

Came to Bombay with his relative Kunwar Ranjit Singh. Kunwar Ranjit singh got him contract with Devika Rani of Bombay Talkies. In 1935 he opened with a single for "Jeevan Prabhat". Then he sang 2 duets with Devika Rani, one being "nis din pal chin sanjh Savere"

He started his acting career with Film "Nirmala" in 1938. He then acted in "Vachan" and "Navjeevan " , in which he sang with Lalita Deulkar. This was his last film with Bombay Talkies

His real acting career started with "Padosi" 1941 , V Shantaram's famous film. In this film, he not only acted but also sung two duets with Anis Khatoon

During the next 10 years, he acted in some 14-15 years including Darpan(1941).Maalan, Swapna (both 1942), Ashirwad, Nauker, Paraye Dhan (all 1943). Parakh, Kumar and Collegian (All 1944),Zanjeer, Bhanwar(1947), Chaubeji (1948) and Apni Chaya (1950) . He acted opposite heroines of the era like Shanta Hublikar, Lalita Powar, Noorjaman, Shobhana Samarth,Kaushalya, Leela Desai, Mehtaab, Khurshid(Jr), Chandraprabha , Maya Bannerjea, Begum Para, Shameem, Nirupa Roy and Sulochana Chatterjee

In 1950 Balwant Singh had to say Bye to film career due to an ailment in his kidneys.
On 4th December 1985, he passed away in Ludhiana
Total films 18
First Film Nirmala 1938 Last Film Apni Chaya 1950

Pratima Dasgupta

Total Films 18 (10 Hindi and 8 Bangla Films)
First Film Gora 1938 Last Film Pagle 1950
Date of Birth – 5th September, 1922 (Kathiawar – British India)

Protima Das Gupta was born on December 5th, 1919, in Kathiawar, British India. She was the daughter of the Chief Engineer of the state. Her family was related to Ravindranath Tagore , So after initial education in England , she came to Shantiniketan and completed her studies, She was a favorite student throughout, Looking at her acting talent Tagore himself recommended her for a debut in Dev Dutta Film's Bengali film 'Gora' in 1938. After that, she gave constantly successful performances in many Bengali films including Sarmistha, Path Bhule, Byabadhan, Suktara and Jiban Sangani. She changed her venue of activity to Bombay to act in Court Dancer/Raj Nartaki (1941). She played the female lead in Kunwara Baap and Raja. She also launched her own production company under the name of Protima Productions and produced Jharna (1948). She also directed three Hindi films including Chhamia (1945), Jharna (1948) and Pagle (1950).
Her 'Jharna-48' was banned by the then Chief Minster Mr. Morarji Desai on the plea that the film had explicit sexual scenes in it.

Chic, petite and dusky Protima was perhaps the most smartly dressed girl in the film-trade. Horse riding, race and reading were her favorite hobbies. She was a dancer of repute and had a troupe of her own. She was married to Major Manzoor-ul-Haq (brother of actress Begum Para)

year	pre-1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	
total		7	11

Daya Devi

Total Films 28
First Film Narsi Bhagat 1940 Last film Zindagi aur Toofan 75

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	4
total		2	26

Daya Devi was married to Lachoo Maharaj and mother of famous actor and singer Kaushalya

Ila Devi

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		4	
total		5	

Ila devi started as Ms Ilmas in Nishane-Jung , and then changed her name to Ila Devi in The cat 38

Nirmala devi

Nirmala Devi
Total Films 11
First Film Savera 1942 Last Film Damaad 1951

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported			1
total		1	10

Nirmala Devi was born on 7 June 1928, in the holy city of Varanasi (then known as Banares), Uttar Pradesh. She was married to actor Arun Kumar Ahuja in 1942. They had 5 children, 3 daughters and 2 sons. The sons are Indian film actor Govinda and film director Kirti Kumar. Nirmala took to acting during the period of her betrothal and her first film to be released was 'Savera' (meaning 'Dawn'), with husband Arun as co-star. She was known as Hindustani classical vocalist of the Patiala Gharana

Nirmala Devi died on 15 June 1998, at the age of 70, in Mumbai.

Nirmala Devi was the mother of Bollywood actor Govinda. She learned early music from her father. she received music training from Ustad Atta Khan, Ustad Rahman Khan and Bade Ghulam Ali Khan.

She came to Bombay with his father in 1941 and sang his first solo song and 2 duet songs in the film Sawera (1942), including Arun Ahuja (Gulshan Singh Ahuja) and Shobhana Samarth. Arun Ahuja and Nirmala Devi got married after this movie. The films after this are Sharda, Kanun Gali, Song, Jeevan, 40 crore, Piya Milan, Sehra, Anmol Ratan, Janmashtami, Shama Parwana,

Apart from Govinda, they had another son Kirti Kumar and daughter Kamini. They were very rich and lived in a bungalow in Bandra, Bombay. In 1948 Arun Ahuja produced 2 films Sehra and Jo Hai Sajan. Sehra Did flop and - Sajan could not be displayed. He suffered huge losses and had to sell everything to a distant suburb of Bombay Virar where her son Govinda was born.

Their economic situation was pathetic after they stopped film singing. She

decided to revive her singing skills in classical genre and thumari expertise. Musician AR Qureshi arranged his program at a music conference in Calcutta. Their program was successful beyond expectation and didn't look back. They started singing in stage shows and Thumri is known for singing.

Meanwhile her son Govinda became a successful actor. They bought a place in Juhu, Bombay and Nirmala devi stayed there for convenience. They started teaching music too. Arun Ahuja continues to stay in Virar. Nirmala Devi's duet with Laxmi Shankar, Shobha Gurtu, Parveen Sultana, Hirabai Badodekar and Girija Devi became the discussion of the city. Many records also came out.

Nirmala Deva used to sing classical music as well as Thumri, Chaiti, Dadra, Kajri, Jhula and Sawani. Her shows were very famous as "I tolerated lakhs of words" and "Sawan passes" and Cheti "Yehiyaan Motiya Herai Gali Rama". She was also loved in her "Na Maro Pichkari" melody, which she often sang at the end of the program.

Another famous singer of Patiala family Laxmi Shankar, wife of famous dance director Uday Shankar ji and Jugalbandi of Nirmala Devi are still remembered by the audience. Famous film actor Govinda, son of Nirmala Devi, considers him as his first and last teacher. According to him she was a religious and saintly woman. Her way of life was very simple.

Nirmala Devi died on 15 June 1998

Lalita Deulker

Lalita Deulkar

The immersive singer Lalita Deulkar 1924(Lalita Panchami Day) at Bombay, Bombay Presidency, Undivided India, now Mumbai, Maharashtra. They loved music since childhood. Her uncle Pandharinath aka N Deulkar was a classical singer and learned classical singing from Baburao Gokhale. After marriage to musician Sudhir Phadke, her real name was Lalita Deulkar, known as Lalita Phadke.

Born 1924 in Bombay

She was not interested in acting or singing, but poor family conditions and father's T.B., forced her to earn a living by singing and acting. During 1940-45, she recorded many songs. One Mr. Dulerai Pandya, a Gujarati, owned" The National Recording Co.Ltd." in Bombay's fort area. There was a Tricolour shown on the labels of the records, hence this company was known as Jhandewali record co.. V.Shantaram was also on its Board of Directors. Initially Prabhat and later Rajkamal film songs were issued on Jhanda Chhap records only. The company had hired Datta Davjekar for Marathi and Avinash Vyas and Lallubhai Bhojak for Hindi and Gujarati songs. She recorded many Darya songs and Bhavgeets in this company. Along with her,Gajanan Watwe,Jyotsna Bhole also recorded songs here. Some records named her as Lalita Devi. Once Saraswati Devi heard her and gave her a chance to do small roles and sing in the chorus of songs of Bombay Talkies films. Her Debut was made with the song " Raja hamen na niharo". It was a duet with Balwant Singh, in the film Navjeevan-39.

Lalita Deulkar's first step in films was as a supporting actress. She acted in Bombay Talkies film Navjeevan . Following this, she turned to playback singing and provided playback for more than 60 films. Mohammed Rafi from the film " Nadia Ke Par " (1948) with his duet song " Mohe Raja Ho Le Chal Nadiya Ke Par..." became very popular in 1948.

Total Films 5 and She sang 79 songs in 36 films.

Lalita Deulkar also provided playback in Marathi films including Prabhat's " Sant Janabai ", " Vitthal Rukmini ", " Mi Daru Sodali " and " Suhasini ", Her songs were also recorded by Young India Gramophone Company. Among them, " Rani ja _ u sakhya re, Shobha Pahusakhya re..." was very popular.

Lalita Deulkar married a famous Marathi music director Sudhir Phadke in 1949 Thay have a son Sridhar Phadke, who is also a music director. After marriage, she slowly went away from the movies. At his wedding at Sahitya Parishad Hall in Pune, famous singer Mohammad Rafi sang

the traditional song 'Mangla Shak...' in traditional tune but with Hindi words. They had prepared for this long ago.

First Film Grihlaxmi 1934 Last Film Navjeevan 1939

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	
total	3	2	

Lalita Deulkar's remarkable films as a playback singer include Sajan (1947) Nadia (1948) and Shabnam (1949).

Lalita Deulkar died on 25 May 2010 in Mumbai. Her funeral was performed at Dadar crematorium. The funeral included musicians Yashwant Dev, Vinay Newalkar, poet Praveen Davane and other remarkable people in the field of music.

Suresh Chandwankar has written an article on Lalitabai. There is some interesting information in this. A record label named Young India established itself in the late 1930 s. Prabhat Film Company had replaced it with HMV, and Shantaram's Rajkamal continued the association in the 1940 s. Young India had different segments for Hindi, Marathi and Gujarati; the company used to record 8 to 10 songs every day. Twelve non-film 78 RPM records sung by Lalitabai are available for him. Eight in Marathi, where her name appears as Lalitabai and four in Hindi, where her name appears as Lalita Devi.

Marathi output includes lyrics written by Tukaram, Dattu Bandekar, Datta Dawjekar, Shantaram Athavale, and composed by Sridhar Parasekar, P Madhukar (Madhukar Pednekar) and set on musical songs written by Datta Davjekar himself. Two songs written by Athavale, Anil-da's destiny has a copy of tunes: ' Ab tere siva ' and ' Dheere gheere aa re, Badal '.

The record DA-6356 presents versions of songs in the cashier. ' Lalita Devi ' has sung ' Mind gently crying '; on the other hand, ' Naino ke ban ki ritual ' in Bimla Kumari's voice. 'Bimla Kumari' was a nickname used by Lahore-based famous film-singer Zeenat Begum.

Sudhir Phadke came to know about these records very late, when only a few months of his life were left. He had expressed his desire to listen to songs with Lalitabai. But it was not supposed to happen. After his death, Lalitabai herself didn't pay much attention to these old records. But some collectors may have this record available right now.

She died on 25-5-2010.

Youseff Effendi

Youseff Effendi
Total pictures 10
First Picture Jehanara 35 Last picture Behram Khan 46

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported			1
total	3	3	4

Total pictures 25
First Film Farebi dake 1931 Last Film Actor 1950
year

Gulzar

Total pictures 25

First Film Farebi dake 1931 Last Film Actor 1950

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	1
total	8	6	11

Harish

Total Films 15
First Film Sangdil Samaj 1936 Last Film Lalten 56
Apart from acting Harish also directed some 6-8 movies also

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		2	
total	1	7	7

M K Hassan

M K Hassan was a regular in Wadia Bros. Productions Company
Total Films 15
First Film Hurricane Special 1939 Last Film Zabaq 62

ear	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	3
otal		3	12

Jagannath

Jagannath was associated with Bombay Talkies Ltd., and such was part of most of Ashok Kumar early movies.

Total Filma 8

First Film Punarmilan 1940 Last Film Mother 1957

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	2
total		2	6

Jyoti

Nimmi's mom Waheedan's (Nimmi's mother) sister. When Waheedan died due to tuberculosis in 1942, Jyoti took care of Nimmi,

Nimmi later became the famous superstar.

Jyoti married G M Durrani, a famous singer of that era.

Total Films 13
First Film Bhole Bhale 1936 Last Film Jeevan Jyoti 1953

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		2	
total	1	9	3

Kalabati

Total Films 4
First Film Jawani ki Reet 39 Last Film pooja 40

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	
total		4	

Kamala Miss or Kamla Kumari

Kamala Kumari was born on June 16, 1934, in Mayuram, Madras Presidency, British India.

She was briefly married to the famous cartoonist R K Laxman (25 June 1954-1960). Then she divorced him

Total Films 14

First Film Bal Yogini 1934 last film Giridhar Gopal ki Meera 1949

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	
total	5	3	6

Kanhaiyyalal

Kanhaiyalal (15-12-1910 – 14 August 1982) was an Indian film actor who acted in 105 films in his career, primarily in Hindi films produced in Bollywood, the Mumbai-based film industry

Kanhaiyalal was born in 1910 in Varanasi. His father Pandit Bhairodutt Choubey, popularly known as Choubeji, was the proprietor of the Sanatan Dharm Natak Samaj in Varanasi. With his father not in agreement with him taking up any form of stage work, he eventually wore out his father's opposition and did odd jobs in the troupe. At 16, he started writing and then moved on to small roles. When his father died, the brothers tried for some time to run the drama company. Proving to be unsuccessful, they downed shutters and Kanhaiyalal decided to seek a film career in Bombay. His elder brother Sankata Prasad Chaturvedi had already set a precedent and established himself as an actor in silent films, but Kanhaiyalal came to films without the intention of acting, wanting to write and direct instead. Eventually capitulating, he began by working as an extra in Sagar Movietone's Sagar Ka Sher. He would have remained a background extra but for a fated twist.

He was fond of plays and came to Mumbai to find a space on stage. He staged his own written play Pandrah August in Mumbai, and later he tried his luck in films. He also wrote many plays. In the 1939 film Ek Hi Raasta as Banke, he got a break in Hindi films and in 1940 he got the role of the moneylender (Sahukar) in Mehboob Khan's film Aurat as Sukkhi Lala. After that, he later acted in many films as a character artiste. When Mehboob Khan directed his film Mother India which was a remake of his earlier film 'Aurat', he again picked Kanhaiyalal to act as Sukkhi Lala, a character that came alive with his natural acting. Some of the performances of Kanhaiyalal which were appreciated by the audience for his versatility include his characters in the films Bhookh (1947), Ganga Jamuna, Gopi, Upkar, Apna Desh, Janta Hawaldar, Dushman, Bandhan, Bharosa, Dharti Kahe Pukar Ke, Hum Paanch, Upkar, Gaon Hamara Desh Tumhara, Dadi Maa, Gruhasti, Hatyara, Palkon Ki Chhaon Mein, Heera, Teen Bahuraniyan, Dost etc. His memorable roles include those as villainous[1] scheming moneylenders in the films Mother India , Ganga Jamuna, Gopi and Upkaar.

As he recalled in an interview, "An actor playing Motilal's father had not reported on the sets, so there was an opportunity to step into the breach. The dialogue I had to speak ran to a full sheet of foolscap paper. Almost everyone on the sets was ready to laugh at me trying to

be an actor, but God helped me, and I did my job." The film was Jhul Badn, written by K. M. Munshi (the founder of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan), directed by Sarvottam Badami, and starring Motilal and Sabita Devi. To his delight, his talkie debut fetched him a ten rupee increment as his salary rose to Rs 45 a month. "Another promotion I earned was to play grandfather instead of father. This was in Sadhana (Old), also by Sagar Movietone. My grandson Prem Adib was the hero of the film. That was my first big role after which I became 'acceptable'. I was quite young, but I thus started playing old roles. And, down the years, I got older and older, but my roles didn't grow younger and younger!"

For Sadhana, he also wrote the dialogues and lyrics. In fact, it was while he was reading out the dialogues, he had written that Chimanlal Desai, proprietor of Sagar, made him an offer to enact the role. "I must also put it on record that when the film was being made, quite a number of people thought I was bogus and withheld cooperation. However, the film was a big hit and achieved silver jubilee at Imperial Cinema."

Getting frustrated at not getting the chance to direct a film, however, after Sadhana, Kanhaiyalal went home to Varanasi. When he returned to Bombay, it was with the understanding that he would help Virendra Desai (son of Sagar Movietone boss, Chimanlal Desai). He rewrote the dialogue of Sanskar and also its lyrics, but it came to naught.

However, the rise of his career graph was launched by Mehboob Khan with writer Wajahat Mirza playing catalyst. At his instance Kanhaiyalal was selected for the role of Sukhi Lala in Aurat (1940). He played the wicked moneylender who has evil designs on the young widow. As he reminisced in an interview, "On this production, too, I had the feeling that the ice had yet to be broken. There was no make-up man free or willing to attend to me. When I explained this difficulty to Faredoon Irani, the cinematographer, he calmly said, 'Don't worry. Just appear as you are, and I will photograph you without makeup.' He did just that. My make-up consisted only of a moustache. There are not very many cinematographers who will stake their reputation by agreeing to photograph artistes without make-up. I admired Mr. Irani's courage and self-confidence. I regard my Aurat role as a good one. I was helped tremendously by the lines Wajahat Mirza wrote for me. In fact, I firmly believe that what an actor needs most of all is good dialogue to enable him to do well."

During the shooting of the scene in which the house collapses on the salacious Sukhi Lala, Kanhaiyalal got hurt. In honor of the dictum, the show must go on, he right away told Mehboob Khan not to call a doctor immediately, but to finish the remaining shots. When he came out of the set eventually, the doctor was waiting for him. Aurat had a

golden jubilee run with Sardar Akhtar (Mrs. Mehboob Khan) playing the lead. When Mehboob remade Aurat as Mother India (1957), only Kanhaiyalal reprised his role, a first in Hindi cinema with the same actor replaying the same character 17 years later.

Telescoped into the stereotype that bears his signature, early in his career he experimented much more than in his later years. "In Mehboob's film Bahen (1941), I had the role of a good-natured pickpocket. Here, four scenes originally conceived for me were spun out into about fourteen by Wajahat Mirza. In National Studios' Radhika (1941), directed by K. B. Lall, I played a temple priest and in Lal Haveli (1944, again by Lall), I played the comic role of a Pandit. Yakub starred in the film and his frequent punch line telling me Chacha, Pasina aa Raha Hai became quite famous."

In Gunga Jumna (1961), he again excelled as a Munim. He also shone in Mahesh Kaul's Sautela Bhai (1962), but the film tanked. Gemini's Grahasti (1962), in which he played a station master gave him immense satisfaction and he said: "In my opinion, it's the first picture from the South starring me to achieve that much versatility."

The trouble monger continued his winning streak with Upkar, Ram aur Shyam (both 1967), Teen Bahuraniyan, Dharti Kahe Pukare (1969), Gopi, Jeevan Mrityu (1970), Dushman (1972) Apna Desh (1972), Heera, Dost, Palkon Ki Chaon Mein, Karmayogi (1978), Janata Hawaldar (1979) and Hum Paanch (1980).

After completing a century of roles in Bollywood, Hathkadi (1982) became his swan song as his histrionics breathed their last on 14 Aug 1982 while he was 72.

He worked in 141 films and surprisingly 7 songs were picturised on him, on screen. Besides acting, Kanhaiyalal wrote dialogues, stories and songs in films. He wrote 57 songs in 8 films namely, Sadhana-39, Comrades-39, Bhole Bhale-39, Sanskar-40, Civil Marriage-40, Radhika-41, Nirdosh-41 and Kasauti-41.

He died in Delhi, leaving behind his wife, two sons and four daughters, and hardly any property. Even the body of the celebrated artiste could not be brought to Bombay, his home.

Total Films 122

First Film Bhole Bhale 1936 last film

Kasam Durga ki 1984

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	many
total	1	3	118

Khatoon or Khatun

At different times there have been many Khatoons like Rahmat Khatoon(Lagan 1941),
This is Anis Khatoon of PADOSI fame.
Married to writer. S. Naziruddin (Darogaji).
Total Films 66
First Film Abul Hasan 1931 Last Film Bhai Bahen 1950

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported	1		1
	1	1	1

Vatsala Kumthekar

She was in Films from its earlier talkie's version. She has acted with Master Vithal, Chandramohan, Yakub and Surendra
She was a singer and actress.
Total Films 18
First Film Ghulam Nu Patan 1931 Last Film Shere Bengal 1947

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		4	2
total	2	7	18

Meera

Total Films 10
First Film Dolti Nayya 1934 Last Film Tu Nahin Aur Sahi 1960
year

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		3	1
total	1	3	6

Renuka Devi

Born 1918 in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, British India [now India]
Died 1989 in Karachi, Pakistan
.
Her real name was Khursheed Mirza.
Renuka Devi was famous Bollywood actress of the early forties. Mostly 1982 called `The Uprooted Sappling', which discussed the life of a literary person in British
India – journalism education and work in Lucknow, married life with husband in Bombay. Hindi
movie industry in Bombay , then migration to Pakistan, adjusting to Karachi,
Total Pictures 8
First Film Jeevan Prabhat 1937 Last Film Ghulami 1945

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	3
total	1	3	4

Mehra Nandkishore

Total Films 10
First Film Jeevan Natak 1935 Last Film Parineeta 1953

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	
total	2	6	2

Mithu Miyan

Mithu Miyan was closely associated with Wadia Brothers Production, first in Wadia Movietone and
then in Basant Pictures
Total Films 25

First Film Tai Swadesh 40 last Film Zimbo Finds a Son 1966

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		2	
total		3	22

Sohrab Modi

Total Films 33
Born 2 November 1897 in Bombay as Sohrab Merwanji Modi
First Film Khoon Ka Khoon 1935 Last Film Razia Sultan 1983
Died 28 January 1984 in Bombay

	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		2	20
total	1	3	29

His father was an Indian civil servant. He spent his childhood in Rampur, Uttar Pradesh where he developed a liking for Hindi and Urdu languages

Sohrab Merwanji Modi was an Indian stage and film actor, director and producer. His films always carried a message of strong commitment to social and national issues.

After finishing school, he became a travelling exhibitor in Gwalior with his brother Keki Modi. At 16 he used project films in Gwalior's Town Hall and at 26 set up his Arya Subhodh Theatrical Company.

Sohrab began as a Parsi theatre actor with some experience in silent films. He earned quite a reputation as a Shakespearean actor, travelling throughout India with his brother's theatrical company and enjoying the tremendous sense of fulfillment every time the curtain came down and the audience applauded. However, with the advent of the sound film in 1931, theatre was declining. To rescue this dying art, Modi set up the Stage Film Company in 1935. His first two films were filmed versions of plays. Khoon Ka Khoon (1935) was an adaptation of Hamlet and marked Naseem Bano's acting debut. The second, Said-e-Havas (1936) was based on Shakespeare's King John. Both films failed at the box office..

After making a name in theatre, he started his own banner, Minerva Movietone, in 1936.

The lion on the logo of his banner, Minerva Movietone, could well symbolize Sohrab Modi's own personality. The Minerva lion's stentorian roar was respectfully heeded for more than two decades.

In his midas-touch trilogy of historical spectaculars — Pukar ('39), Sikander ('41) and Prithvi Vallabh ('43), Modi made the most of his gift for grandiloquence, and gave inspiring facsimile recreations of palaces and courts to encapsule all that is grand about the Indian historical heritage.

Modi took the industry by storm with his superhit quasi historical — Pukar('39). Set in the Moghul king Jehangir's court and studded with Kamaal Amrohi's poetic dialogue, Pukar explored the ethical ramifications of the supposedly immutable laws of justice. In a moving denouement, Jehangir (Chandramohan) asks the washerwoman (Sardar Akhtar) to take his own life in reparation for that of her husband, who had been inadvertently killed by his queen (Naseem). As the loyal Rajput Sangram Singh, who is willing to sacrifice his son in the name of justice, Modi gave free rein to that rich voice which captivated the audience with its power and pathos.

Later, in the role of the proud Indian king Puru, he drew applause for bandying crackling lines with his conqueror, Alexander, in Sikander ('41). It was said that even the blind came to Modi's films to hear his incredible dialogue delivery.

Besides historical, he also made throbbing dramas of illicit passion, albeit with less spectacular success. Modi's Bharosa ('40), tackled incest for the first time (Sardar Akhtar's daughter is fathered not by her husband, Mazhar Khan, but by her lover, Chandramohan. Unfortunately, the daughter chooses to fall in love with Chandramohan's son!). In Jailor; the tyrannical hero Sohrab, locks up his young wife after she is caught eloping with her lover. In his Prithvi Vallabh ('43), an ageing queen (Durga Khote), falls helplessly in love with King Prithvi (Sohrab Modi) after sadistically torturing him.

His relationship with the famed beauty, Naseem, having come to naught,

Sohrab Modi was married to Mehtab Modi, an actress born into an aristocratic Muslim family from Gujarat, who began her career in his movie Parakh (1944). They married on her birthday on 28 April 1946. They had a son, Mehelli, from this marriage who settled in the UK in 1967, where he would later find the British arthouse DVD label Second Run. Mehtab had a son, Ismail from her first marriage, who lived with them.

Mehtaab was 20 years younger than him but she was still too old to play the title role in Modi's most ambitious historical, Jhansi Ki Rani ('53). Made in expensive Technicolor at a tremendous cost, JhansiKi

Rani flopped miserably. Though Modi returned the very next year with Mirza Ghalib, which went on to win the coveted President's Gold Medal, the subsequent decline proved irreversible.

When he was 86, Modi surprised all by launching a film, Guru Dakshina. But it remained incomplete when cancer intervened. In his last days, even Modi's signature boom was muffled, but the spirit remained indomitable till the end.

There is an incident about Sohrab Modi's visit to Kolkata. Here he met with the Holy Mother Sarada Devi. Sohrab went to her for diksha but was denied permission. He reportedly asked to holy mother, "Maiji kuchh kijiye jisse khuda pehchana jaye". The incident of their meeting was not less than surprising. During her last days, none was permitted to come near the Holy Mother. But the day Sohrab had come for diksha, Maa Sarada could feel that someone has came for diksha from her saintly powers without anyone telling about him to the holy mother. She asked to send Sohrab to her and gave her many lessons which would be later helpful in his life.

Sohrab Modi received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1980. He was the tenth recipient of the award. He suffered from cancer of the bone marrow and succumbed to the disease on 28 January 1984 at the age of 86.

· In 1960 he was a member of the jury at the 10th Berlin International Film Festival.

· In 2005, the Phalke medallion and some ceramic pieces from Modi's Cuffe Parade home were sold to Mumbai's most resourceful and notorious antiques market, Chor Bazaar.

Sikander 41

A true giant of the Indian Film Industry.

Nagendra Mazumdar

Born 1894 in Bombay
Death August 22, 1951
He was an accomplished director before turning to acting. He directed some ~27 movies.
Nagendr, one of the oldest personality in Hindi Film World was born in a well to do family
his father had established "Pearl Dairy". Suddenly his wife became sick and died.
He then moved to Baroda and worked as a Watch and Ward Inspector in Baroda Railways
He also did Hero's roles in the dramas of famous dramatist R V Desai
Heeralal, the owner of Laxmi Film Company. After seeing him in these dramas brought him
to Bombay 1n 1926. He worked as a hero in films in Laxmi. Jagdish and Imperial film companies
He also directed several films , like Pani men Aag produced by Royal Arts in 1926. He directed
some 15 silent and 12 talkies
When offers for directions became difficult he started acting. He started with Prem Nagar in 1940
and continued till Dhanna Bhagat in 45 In this period, he also continued occasional directing roles
like Swadesh Sewa in 1946
His health was declining. He gave up work. He suffered from Paralysis and died on 8 22 1951.
As a director Nagendra had worked with best of his times like Master Vithal, Zubeida. Jillo,
Billimoria brothers, Madhuri, Navinchandra, Durga Khote, Jairaj, Sultana, and Noorjehan Sr and
Such Luminaries of those days. He worked for Ranjit, Sharda, Lukshmi, Jayant Desai films and
Yagnik films.
His son Ninu Mazumdar worked in Bombay A.I.R. as head of Gujarati Programs since
1937. She later became a Music Director

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	3
total	4	1	11

Noorjehan Sr

Noorjehan-Sr.'s real name was Zebunnisa, but since there were already many Zebs in the film line, she took the name.
of Noorjehan. She was from a Tawayaf family of Lahore. She started with Silent film Gulnar-1930, then came All for love,
chandramani, Hind ke Tare, Shaliwahan etc. After doing about 10 silent films, she first appeared in a Talkie Mirza Sahibaan-
1933. (The silent films were produced till sept.1934).

Pandey

Total films 31
First Film Judgement of Allah 1935 Last Film Janam Janam Ke Phere 1957

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	2
total	9	7	15

Parashuram

Died January24, 1978 Bombay
Born~1922, Ahmednagar , Maharashtra
Birth Name Parshuram Laxman Sonnis

He was educated only until 4th grade. He used to sing filmy songs. His father brought him to Bombay.
And got him a job at Ranjit Movietone . That job , for extra lasted him for 1 year. Then his father took him.
When V Shantaram heard him singing, he decided to hire him. He was hired for Re 5 per month.
V Shantaram gave him a role in "Duniya Na Maane" 1937' in this movie ha sang a song, "Man Saf TeraKi Nahin'. Then "Goal Krishna" 1938, He played as a role of Krishna's friend. Then one or two movies later
Shantaram could not support him, even though he gave him Re 500 for his marriage to Leelabal in 1940
V Shantaram gave him a role in "Shakuntala" , as 'Kanva Muni'. In this movie he sang two songs also
His Big role came in 1956 Bharat Bhushan's "Basant Bihar". He lip-synced in this movie the great song
"ketki Bahar Juhi Champak van Phoole" of Bhimsen Joshi. After that he met an accident and then he
became a drunkard and died in a destitute condition
Total Films 29
First Film Duniya na Maane 1937 Last Film Man Mandir 1971

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported	1	1	1
total	1	3	27

Prabha

Birthday 6 6 15 Ludhiana Punjab
Deathday 3rd December, 1975
Birthname Prabhs Rajpal

Prabha Rajpal was from a respectable Hindu family of Punjab. She was born on 6-6-1915 at Ludhiana. Her father Rajpal was a high ranking government officer based at Lahore. All her education was done in Lahore. She was fluent in Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi and English.

Right from childhood, she was keen on working in films. Being from an orthodox family, there was opposition, but despite all this she entered films and her first film was Jung Bahadur aka DareDevil-1935. After doing3a few more films she left Bhavnani camp and worked in Minerva's film Atma Tarang-37 as a Heroine opposite Sohrab Modi.

She was very beautiful.

Then she joined Sagar for a feh more films and she became a freelancer.

In all she worked in 36 films in her career. She got married to a Cinematographer Virender Ahuja and settled down after the film Veerangana-47.

When her husband was one of the producers, she worked in film Shrimati ji-52 and then retired from films. She died on 12-3-1975.

Total Films 36
First Film Jung Bahadur 35 Last Film Shrimati ji 52

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported			
total	4	5	27

Snehprabha Pradhan

Born October 28, 1915, Nagpur, Name was a combination of Snehlata and Prabhavati

Parents Vithalrao Pradhan and Tarabai, intercaste marriage; they both believed universal rights to education.

Death December 7, 1993, Suicide; body discovered by a Neighbor.

She moved all over India as a child, because her parents were on the move. She learnt about India and learnt 4 languages. She had

A love for animals.

Though she was on good terms with her stepsister and stepbrother, but due to her mother not getting along with them, her father and his

Children Separated. The 1n 1939 her mom was diagnosed with osteoarthritis, she had to Medical studies and concentrate on earning for

Financial needs.

She got film offers. At first she was hesitant, but afterwards she did a movie with Chimanbhai Desai, 'Civil Marriage'. This movie was

Made under Sagar Movietone and directed by Ramchandra Thakur opposite Arun and Harish

Before the movie started, she developed Rash due to makeup man's problem. She also lost hair due to thyroid.

Yet the movie came out successfully. Even actor Surendranath became a fan of her acting and singing.

Then she did Saubhagya (1940) and Sajni (1940) in Supporting roles.

The role of lifetime she got with Kishore Sahu in Punar Milan (1940), which was a beautiful role. During this film

Kishore Sahu and Snehprabha fell in love, got married but within a year got divorced also.

After her divorce Snehprabha acted in several films like Pardesi (1941), Pyas (1941), Naya Andaz(1943), Pahli Mangalagaur (1942),

Ladai ke Baad(1943), Mahakavi Kalidas(1944), Din Rat(1945), and Salgirah(1946). She sang for most of the films. She worked with Motilal,

Khurshid,Ishwarlal,Jairaj, David,Shahu Modak, Pahadi Sanyal, and Vanmala. In Pehli Mangalagur she Did a kissing scene and played

With Child artist Lata Mangeshkar, and sang a duet with her.

On December24, 1946 her mother expired.

In 1950 she did her last Hindi film with Dev Anand , 'Birha ki Raat'

Then she took a break from Hindi films and concentrated on Marathi plays.

She maintained a platonic relationship with Dr Shirodkar for almost 14 years until his death.

Her autobiography which published in 1973 as Snehankita , made detailed version of her
Platonic relationship with Dr Shirodkar
Total films 17
First Film Civil Marriage1940 Last Film Birha ki Raat 1950

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	
total		5	12

Khemchand Prakash

Born December 7 1912 in Sujangarh, Bikaner(now in Churu District), Rajasthan

Died August 10, 1949, Due to Cirrhosis

Birthname Khemraj

Born to Pandit Goberdhan Prasad, a famous Dhrupad Singer and Kathak dancer in Royal Darbar of Jaipur

Married to Kaani bai (died in 1949), had one daughter Savitri (Died in 1992)

Khemchand Prakash was a music composer in the Hindi film industry. He had few peers in 1940s, the decade for Indian film music which started with Saigal and ended with Lata Mangeshkar. Lata had fruitful association with him (in films Asha, Ziddi,and Mahal) when she started making a name for herself.

Khemchand's brother, Basant Prakash, was also a film composer. Khemchand Prakash had only 1 daughter & her name was Savitri.

Born in Sujangarh, then located in Bikaner State in Rajputana Agency of British India (now in the Churu district of Rajasthan), he got his first training in music and dance from his father, who was a dhrupad singer and a Kathak dancer in the royal court. In his teens, he joined the royal court of Bikaner (King Raja Gangasunhji) as a singer and later moved to the royal court of Nepal. (Raja Naresh Rudra Shamsher Singh). But destiny landed him in Kolkata and he joined the legendary New Theaters. He was assistant to composer Timir Baran in Devdas (1935 film), and he sang a comedy song 'lo kha lo madam khaanaa' in Street Singer (1938).He befriended Prithwiraj Kaoor. He then moved to Mumbai and made his debut as music director in 1939 with Supreme Pictures' films Meri Aankhein and Gazi Salauddin, assisteed by Naushad . He was soon signed up by Ranjit Movietone Film Studio

His initial years with Ranjit Movietone produced significant films like Diwali, Holi, Pardesi, Fariyaad, etc. Khursheed was his leading singer and both of them gave many hits of early 40s. His biggest hit with Ranjit Studio was the film Tansen in 1943. Songs like "Diya jalaao jagmag jagmag", "Rumjhum rumjhum chal tihari", "More balpan ke saathi", "Sapt suran teen gram", "Hath sine pe jo rakh do to karara aa jaaye" were big hits. In a radio programme, famous composer Anil Biswas credited Khamchand Prakash for sticking to historical perspective and musical traditions by making K.L. Saigal sing the song 'Sapt Suran Teen Gram' in the Dhrupad style, instead of the Khayal genre, which was done in other films on Tansen, as he knew well that during the life and times of Tansen, the Khayal genre

did not exist.

1948 marked yet another significant film of his career, Bombay Talkies' Ziddi. He gave first major break to Kishore Kumar as a singer for the song "Marne ki duaaen kyun maangu". Ziddi featured a beautiful song of Lata Mangeshkar "Chanda re ja re ja re".

He was a mentor to Lata Mangeshkar, Kishore Kumar, Khursheed and Music Maestro Naushad.

But what followed Ziddi was another hit film Mahal (1949 film). Mahal made Lata Mangeshkar a popular name. Prior to Mahal, the records used to feature only the character name on the record. Hence the first lot of records had "Aayega aane wala" credited to Kamini. The first time when the song was played on All India Radio many calls were received by AIR to know the singers name. AIR had to in turn ask the record company and announce Lata Mangeshkar's name on air. Mahal, his signing was due to Kamal Amrohi's insistence. His last film was Tamasha (1952) , where his incomplete Music was completed be one time assistant Manna Dey and S K pal

He took lessons in Hindustani Classical Music from His father, his uncle Gopalchand and Ustad Maula Baksh Dhavsi. He also trained in Kathak from his older Step brother Badri Prasad and Pandit Jailal

Khemchand Prakash died at an early age of 41 on 10 August 1949 due to Cirrhosis.

Naushad said in his tribute "I will be grateful for life, because 'Guruji' (a name famous among all his contemporary Music Directors) took me as his assistant. I have gained a lot, this is the result of his teachings'

Anil Biswas said about him 'Khemchand Prakash was my contemporary, but I could not compare to his music. He had his own Formula which none other could achieve"

Kamal Amrohi wrote the opening lines of 'Khaamosh hai zamaana..' while Naqshab completed the rest. The first tune that composer Khemchand Prakash played on the harmonium was approved by Kamal Amrohi . Sadly, Khemchand died at the Harikisondas Hospital two months before Mahal released and his creation 'Aayega Aanewala' became a sensation.

His grandsons Riju Bajaj (married to Meghna Malik) and Aseem Bajaj (married to Leena Yadav). They have both worked as cinematographers in the Indian film industry.

Total Films 2

First Film Street Singer

First Film Street Singer 1938 Last Film Sapera 39

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported			
total		2	

He was the most famous Music composer, who composed music for `40 movies in 1935-1949, including music for Saigal for Tansen (43), 'Sapt Suran Teen Gram' and 'Diya Jalao Diya Jalao' and 'Mahal' for Lata, 'Ayega Aane Wala'

Pratima Devi

Pratima Devi was born as Kherunnisa Sultan in Kutch, Gujerat in around 1910.

She came to see Himanshu Rai of Bombay Talkies with her friend who was screen tested and rejected. Himanshu offered to test Kherunnisa, but she was not interested. She had

A regular life with her husband. Later the circumstances changed. She had to divorce her Husband due to him being a drunkard or no good for anything. She had a child, but she Lost it at 10 months. So, she again came back to Himanshu Rai who screen tested her and gave her a role in Bhabhi. He changed her name to Pratima Devi. The role was for a middle-aged lady and this initial pick carried her as she acted as mother to much bigger stars' mother.

She acted as mother to Prithwiraj Kapoor (in Valmiki) and

V Santarem's mother (Dr Kotnis ki Amar Kahani). Later on, she participated in Dev Anand's pictures.

She remained a Batchelor until she passed away in 1983.

Total Films 142 or so

First Film Bhabhi 1938 Last Film Pukar 1983

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	Many
total		5	137

Rajni Rani

Total Films 2
First Film Zindagi 1940 Last Film Nartaki 1940

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	
total		2	

Brij Rani

Brij Rani was active in the industry in 1938-51, She started her work in the Master Bhagawan's movie Bahadur Kisan. She worked in several movies including

Mehboob directed Aurut (1940) and K B Lall directed Lal Haveli (1945), She

later developed a working relation with Baburao Pehelwan and did several pictures with him

she also directed a movie, the Bhagwan starred Damaad in 1951

Total Films 6

First Film Bahadur Khan 1938 Last Film Circus King 1946

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	1
total		3	3

Radha Rani (Bombay wali)

Total Films 25
First Film Romantic India 36 Last Film Rasili 46

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	2
total	10	8	7

Radha Rani (Bombay wali) was the daughter of a Military Officer. Born at Quetta, Balochistan, in or around 1920-21, she had a British father and Indian mother. She had total Indian looks. Her initial education and schooling was done in Bombay. She became an expert in Horse Riding, swimming, cycling, driving and skating. She was very beautiful and attractive. At the age of 15, she looked quite grown up with distinct features. While in the school final itself she got offers from films. Her first film was Romantic India-36. Being an expert singer, she started singing in films. Next she acted in Badhe Chalo-37.

She was called to Calcutta to act in the film 'Swaraj ke Sipahi '-37. From Calcutta, she went to Madras to do a role in a Telugu film ' Bhakta Jaidev

-38. Returning to Bombay, Radha Rani acted in Sunehra Baal-38 and then joined Wadia movietone. Here she did 7 stunt/action films.

After this she became a freelancer and acted in 18 more films of different banners. She also acted in Punjabi film ' Kurmai'-41. Her

achievements in films were amazing. Stepping directly from the school classroom onto the Silver Screen, in her first 5 years of career itself,

She had bagged 15 feature films. This was mainly due to to her striking screen beauty, linguistic dexterity, and histrionic versatility.

She was a consummate actress, singer and dancer. She was very fond of reading English literature and would spend time reading books during shooting breaks.

She made a good pair with actor Zahoor Raja in 8 films. She acted in 3 films of his production company and in film Badal-42,

he directed her. Her last film was Rasilee-46. After this film she got married and went to England.

Jungl3 Priness 42
Total Films 27

Kishore Sahu

First Film Jeevan Prabhat 1937 Last film Gambler 1971
Birthday Nov. 22 1915, Rajnathgaon, Durg Central Provinces
year
pre 1938
1938-40
post 1941
Deathday Aug. 22 1980 Bangkok, Thailand

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	6
total	1	1	25

Kishore Sahu caught up with plays since school time. After entering the world of plays, he thought he was born to act. After taking admission in Morris College in Nagpur, Sahu started taking the plays so seriously that , Sahu could only get the number worth passing in the exam.

Till then, Kishore Sahu's writings started coming out vocal. He got the inspiration to write from home. His father Kanhaiya Lal Sahu was a Hindi writer. Kishore Sahu started writing stories since school days. In Nagpur, he not only acted in dramas but also wrote dramas.

Kishore Sahu's writing talent helped him to strengthen his place in the film world. After leaving college, he decided to act. Meanwhile, the beautiful and impressive Sahu was suggested by his friends to go to Mumbai and try his luck in films. They made Mumbai's way. Like many others, Sahu also had to struggle hard to find work.

The time of struggle made him meet Ashok Kumar. Sahu's fearless talks on interest in literature and nuisance of acting affected Ashok Kumar. On the recommendation of Ashok Kumar, the owner of Bombay Talkies agreed to meet Himanshu Rai. Sahu's luck changed after this meeting.

Himanshu Rai gave Sahu the role of hero in his film Jeevan Prabhat (1938). Himanshu Rai's wife Devika Rani was Sahu's heroine. Kishore Sahu's first film got a hit. In this film, Sahu had played the role of a rich landlord's son. He sang songs in the garden with the heroine.

They wanted to do something that could satisfy the artist inside them. But why would someone spend his money to satisfy an artist. Kishore Sahu realized this thing shortly after the film was hit. There was only one way in front of them to make a film themselves to fulfill their desires. But their conditions were not like this.

Sahu returned to Nagpur and got engaged in writing, then after getting the news of his experiences in Mumbai, his friend Dwarka Das Daga came to meet him. He was a millionaire businessman. His brother had his own business in Mumbai. Sahu told Daga that he can't find satisfaction without working in his own film and to do so he has to open his own film company Daga had seen movie Jeevan Prabhat and Kishore Sahu's talent already had a style so he was happy to open a film company with Sahu.

This is how the film production organization named India Artist Limited came into existence. The first film of this banner was Bahurani. Sahu, who had a deep passion for literature, made Anup Lal Mandal's novel Mimansa the base for this film. The film Bahurani proved to be a very popular and revolutionary film of her time on the untouchable subject. After this Sahu worked at the Bombay Talkies film 'Punarmillan" (1940).

This film was also successful and in this way Sahu's account was the third successful film

He was briefly married to his Punar Milan (1940) co-star Snehprabha Pradhan before the relationship ended in 1943 after a court battle

Here, Sahu presented another color of his acting and made a film named 'Kunwara Baap' which is still one of the best comedy films of India. Kishore Sahu wrote the dialogue of 'Kunwara Baap' with his friend and famous Hindi writer Amritlal Nagar and acted.

When Kishore Sahu's comedy acting was being discussed, Sahu decided to play the role of an angry man. The name of the film was 'Raja'. He added another Hindi writer to this film. Bhagwati Charan Verma's famous song - ' Hai Aaj Yaha Kal Vahan Chalo ' Kishore Sahu made the lead song of ' Raja '.

Along with being connected to the films, Kishore Sahu continued to write and wrote hard. Stories, novels, dramas, and poems all he wrote. Simple and interesting words, common speaking language and human sympathy are the specialty of Kishore Sahu's writing.

His three story collections as an author were published from Tesu's flowers, illusion and nest from the Hind Pocket Book. Their collection of plays

is Shadi or Dhakosala. Also there is a collection of their prose songs. Looking at Kishore's writing talent, the editor of the most popular film magazine film India of his time, Babu Rao Patel, started writing Acharya Kishore Sahu

Kishore Sahu has always given importance to Hindi in films, but the language of the Chhattisgarh in which he was born and raised was also respected. Dilip Kumar and Kamini Kaushal starring 'Nadia Ke Par', for the first time, Chhattisgarhi was heard speaking on the screen.

Kishore Sahu directed about 22 films including ' Helmet ', ' Kalighata ', ' Sajan ', ' Sindoor ' and ' Veer Kunal '. First Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister Sardar Balbhbhai Patel declared it the best film in Mumbai while releasing Veer Kunal.

Sahu also presented different shades on acting screen. How to forget his strong acting in the film 'Kala Bazar', 'Guide 'and 'Hare Rama Hare Krishna'.

In the last years, Kishore Sahu was very angry about the changes in the film world. They were of that time when hard work, honesty and principles used to be a big thing, but in the seventies, the situation started changing rapidly.

'

He had four children, Vimal Sahu, Naina Sahu, Mamta Sahu, and Rohit Sahu.[8] His wife Preeti was a Kumaoni Brahmin

Kishore Sahu also made the film 'Hare Kanch Ki Chudiya' (1967) with his daughter Nayana,.

Kishore Sahu worked on a grand film plan until his demise on 22 August 1980

Sarojini

Birthdate 1920 Delhi
Birthbame Roshan Jehan
Married Nanubhai Vakil, 1943
Died in 1993
(husband Nanubhai Vakil passed away in 1980)
Is the mother of AZRA the famous actress in Indian Cinema, Especially Mother India and Gunga Jamuna
Is the older sister of Indurani (Ishrat Jehan) a famous actress in Hindi Cinema.
Parents
Munawwar Jehan (mother), Sheikh Imamuddin Siddiqui (father)
Total Films 14
First Film Sri Satya Narayan 35 Last film Circus King 46

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		4	
total	1	6	7

Shamim

Birth date – 1920 (Lahore, British India)
Death date-October 10 1984 (Lahore, Pakistan)
Shamim was a niece of famous singer/actress Khurshid Beghum.
She grew up in a wealthy merchant family in Lahore.
She is mostly known for her role as a heroine in Jwar Bhata with Agha as a hero.
in this film Dilip Kumar in his very first film, a second hero with Mridula as second heroine
After passing his school examination, She came to Bombay in 1939 with her father
They accidently met G R Sethi, who encouraged her to join films.
Her debut film was Imandar (1939)
She did 'Armaan' with Motilal. Per Kidar Sharma the director insisted on taking Motilal as
hero and Shamim as heroine, Chandulal Shah the owner warned him 'go ahead, but if you take Shamim,
Khurshid would never work in any film, as she is very Jealous of charming looking niece Shamim'
'Mehman','Sanyasi', 'Pehle Aap' ''Sindoor' and 'bansari' were some of her 24 movies.
In this 'Sindoor ' (1947) was controversial, which Kishore Sahu made about Hindu Widow Remarriage
'Bansari' (1943) was the best picture per Shamim.
After partition, she migrated to Pakistan and made several movies, 'Shahida' (1949) with Nasir
Khan as a hero and 'Do Ansoo' which became a hit.
She married Producer/Director of 'Do Ansoo' Anwar Kamal Pasha and quit the film business.

Total Films 24
First Film Imaandar 1939 Last Film Ghulam 53

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	12
total		5	19

Janardan Sharma

Total Films 4
First Film Sandesa 1940 Last Film Yadgaar 1947

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	1
total		2	2

Sheela

Real name Roshan Ara
Birthday March 13, 1925, Maharashtra
Sheela was a Minerva Movietones actress and a personal find of Mr. Sohrab Modi
Her father was a Railway Station Master
On a visit to Sholapur with his Drama troupe, Sohrab Modi saw her and brought her to Bombay. Employed in Minerva as a singer and actress.
She sang 42 songs in 14 films.
She married actor, Rama Shukul
He was brahmin. opposition from family. Registered marriage. only 4 friends attended. 1 son and 1 daughter.
Her husband died in 1959
Total Films 20
First Film khan behadur 37 Last film Akeli Mat Jayio 1963
Billi 49

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		2	1
total	3	6	11

Rama Shukul

From a rich family of Jabalpur-MP
Studied up to Sr. Cambridge
Rama Shukul was a member of Bombay Taikies in 1938. Married Sheela from Minerva
Had his own car in college days.
Rama Shukul was from a rich family of Jabalpur, Madha Pradesh, He studied
into Senior Cambridge. At that time he had a rare possession, a car in his college days
He was a sportsman in college days. He participated in Tennis, Volleyball, Hockey
and Cricket. He was involved in drama and won several prizes.
He joined Ranjit Studios in 1942 and finally he worked freelance.
Died in 1959, due to heart attack
Total Films 20
First Film Bhabhi 1938 Last Film Madhu 1958

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		4	1
total		4	16

Sunalini Devi

Born !890, one of the oldest in Hindi Cinema, In Hyderabad

Sunalini (born Chattopadhyay) was from a very well-known and privileged family of Hyderabad , Deccan.
Her sister was the famous Sarojini Naidu and brother was famous poet, drama writer and film actor Shri Harindranath Chattopadhyay (who was younger than her).
She had a very deep interest in Kathak dance and started learning kathak dance, when she was only 5 Years old. By the time she was 16, she was giving a
Kathak dance performance all over India. In one performance she was given the title of "Nritya Rani". Both Acharya Rabindranath Tagore, and Sri Motilal
Nehru were present on this occasion. She also performed on stage. One of her drama Performance "Abu Hassan", written by her younger brother
Sri Harindranath Chattopadhyay became so famous that it ran in Bombay stages for 2-3 years at one end.
Later she got married to Mr. Rajam, a lawyer of Cuttack with whom she had a son.
After that she had a medical issue, and she gained weight. So, she had to stop all kathak dancing.
Among her movies there was a silent film "Prem Sanyas" with Devika Rani and Himanshu rai. But at that time She did not want to any movies.
But later, upon the advice of her older sister, she got into acting. She performed in `60 films. In 1953 she moved to the USA with her son. Later on, she opened a dance school.
Tatal films 60
First Film Hum Tum Aur Yeh 1938 Last Film Angarey 1958

ear	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		2	5
otal	1	10	27

Sundar

Birth 10 august 1916 , Sialcoat, Punjab
Death 5 March, 1992 Mumbai,india

Sunder Singh aka Sunder was born in Sialkot, Punjab on 10th August 1916. His father was working in Madan Theatres, Calcutta. Sunder also started working there. Initially, for a long period, he did Girl's roles. Once his work was seen by H.S.Rawail (Director in later life). He was quite impressed. Later, Rawail started working with R.N.Vaidya as his assistant in direction. Meanwhile Sunder started working in Talkie films. His first film, where he was credited, was " Na hone wali baat"-38. Before that, Rawail and Vaidya were preparing to make the film Banke Sipahi-37. Rawail recommended Sunder and Vaidya gave him an uncredited small role in that film.

Sunder and Rawail became good friends and started staying in one flat in Calcutta. After a few films here, they both went to Lahore and Sunder got the Hero's role in the film " Shukriya"-44. There were 4 Heroines in the film- Ramola, Rooplekha, Manorama and Raksha. Sunder's role in this film was that of a young man from a village and Ramola was from a city. Sunder's one song from this film-' Nayanon ke teer chala gayee ek shehar ki laundiya' became very popular all over India, However the song was banned in Punjab due to its lyrics. After this they both came back to Calcutta.

Birth Name Sunder singh; Davinder singh Khalisi

His next film was Albeli-45, in which too there were 4 Heroines- Ramola, Rooplekha, Manorama and Usha. In the 40's, Sunder acted in many films like Arabian Nights, Baap, Shabri, Chandrashekhar, Ek aurat, Grihalaxmi, Lottery, Samapti, Jhoothi kasme, Savyasachi, Do baaten, Shadi ke baad, Bawra, Khiladi, Nai Bhabhi etc. In Calcutta, Sunder got married to a girl from his community. Rawail left for Bombay. After a few months, Sunder also returned to Bombay.

Rawail was very happy to get him back and gave him roles in almost all of his films. Not only Rawail, but also J.Om Prakash, Mohan Kumar, Lekhraj Bhakri, Manoj kumar etc gave him roles in all their films and he became a busy actor. He was at one time, in great demand. He was quite popular due to his nature. In the decade of 50's he did 88 films, which increased in the 60s and 70s. In the 80s, however, films came haltingly.

Sundar was a famous comedian of Hindi Films.

From singing Hero, he became a Junior artiste(extra), in presence of the

new crop of actors. The role of comedians was on decline, as Heroes like Amitabh and others did comedy scenes themselves. His health started troubling him. His last film was probably Bahurani-89. He became ill for a long time and finally died on 5-3-1992. Sunder acted in 436 films. He was a good singer and sang his own songs in early cinemas. In all, Sunder sang 40 songs in 25 films.

His son expired when he was very young.

Total films 436

First Film Na hone wq 1938 Last Film Bahoorani 1989

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported			4+many
total		5	431

Suresh

Birth name Nazim Ahmed
Born 13 November 1929, in Gurdaspur, Punjab
Died 14 July 1979

Started as a child artist in several Bombay Talkies movies like Jhoola(40), Anjan (1941), Naya Sansar(1941) and Basant (1942).He was a rare cases of of child stars who became a success adult actor

He was very handsome person.

In 1950 he went to Pakistan and acted in 2 films there in 1950-51. But he returned as he felt there was no future there

He returned to India and formed an understanding with the super director, A R Kardar, who gave him.

Leading roles in Dulari(1949) opposite Madhubala , who had acted as child artist in Basant(42) with him,

Jadoo(1951) opposite Nalini Jaywant, Deewana (52) opposite Suraiya and Yasmin(55) opposite Vyjaywantimala.

He worked with all top heroines of his daylike Azra, Padmini, Vijaya Chaudhari, Shashikala, Nanda etc. later.

Late 1950 was a period of lean times Suresh, where he did small parts in B Films like Sher-e-Afghan.

Later turning Producer with a film 'Ganga aur Sooraj' in 70, with Sunil Dutt, Shashi Kapoor, and Reena Roy,

But the villain Anwar Hussain got paralysis, the film got stranded and was released in 1980

The film was released after his death, and bombed left him in a deep financial crisis

The famous song of Rafi, 'Suhani Raat Dhai Chuki'was filmed was filmed on Suresh in the film 'Dulari.'

Total films 52

First Film Gopal krishna 38 Last Film Parde Ke Peeche 71

L	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	6
total	1	4	47

Tarapore Eurich

He was a distant relative of Sohrab Modi. He acted in most of Minerva Movitone movies.

He sang one song each in 3 films, Meetha Zahar-38, Jailor-38 and Phir Milenge-43

He Died in 1958

Total Films 16

First Film Khoon ka Khoon 1935 Last Film Jailor 58

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	2
total	1	5	10

G L Vaid

Girdharilal Vaid was a member of New Theaters. He was cast in several K L Saigal movies.

Total movies 6

First Film Maya 1936 Last Film Lagan 41

year

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported	1	1	1
total	2	3	1

Wahidan

Wahidan and Jyoti were from Kinari Bazaar, Agra. They were sisters.

She was a singing star of the late 30's. She participated in Ranjit Film Company's Rickshwwala (38) and Secretary (1938). Other films were

Ali Baba(40) and Sanskar(40).

She suffered from Tuberculosis in 1942 and died at young age.

She had a daughter Nimmi, who was taken care of by the film star and her aunt Jyoti.

Later on, Nimmi got a part in Raj Kapoor's Barsat in 1949 and became a famous Superstar

Total films 9

First Film Prithwi Putra 1938 Last Film Alibaba 1940

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		4	
total		9	

Waskar

Waskar participated in most of Mehboob's movies
Total Films 13
First Film Aurat 1940 Last Film Andaz 1949

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	5
total		1	12

Yasmin

Yasmin was an anglo Indian girl, She changed her name to Malti in 1937 (per Filmindia)

YASMIN DELIVERED 3 SONGS IN TWO FILMS

Total Films 11
First film WOH KAUN 1935 Last Film CAPTAIN KISHORI 1940

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	
total	6	5	

Vimal Sardesai

She was a Marathi artist. She acted on a very few Hindi movies

The lead actress Vimal Sardesai hailed from Konkan area and started her film career as baby Vimal. She acted in only 7 Hindi films. Her

first film was Saathi-38. This was the Hindi version of Marathi film Savangadi-38, starring Durga Khote and Mubarak Merchant.

Her second film was Mera haq-39. It was her first film as a Heroine. This too was a Hindi version of Marathi film ' Sukhacha Shodh".

Then came Narsi Bhjagat-40 made by Prakash pictures, Alakh Niranjan-40 was a Hindi version of Marathi film Gorakhnath-40,

Apna Ghar-42 was a Hindi version of Marathi film Aaple Ghar-40-directed by Debaki Bose, his first film in Bombay, Wadia's

Shobha-42 and her last film was Mahatma Vidur-43, a Hindi version of Marathi film of the same name. This was also

the last film of Parshwanath Altekar the director.

After this film Vimal Sardesai was impossible to trace. Preamps she got married and left films

Total films 7

First Film Saathi 38 Last Film Mahatma vidur

year	pre 1938	1938-40	post 1941
# reported		1	
total		5	2

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PHOTO GALLERY

Amir Banu Singar 49

Amir Banu Aurut 40 on left

Amir Banu Jan Pehchan 50

Amir Banu

Amir Banu Babul 50

Amir Banu Andaz 49 standing behind Nargis

Amir Banu Anokha Pyar 48

Amir Banh 44

Amir Banu Mirza Sahiban 45

Amir Banu Anokhi Ada 49

Amir Banu

Anwari Andaz 49

Anwari Gopinath 48

Anwari Sri 420 37, heroine

Anwari puts in a good performance in "Dak Bungalow", a social story of Indian National Pictures Ltd.

Anwari Shahejehan 46

Anwari and Dilawar in a tense moment in Shaheen Art Productions' "Midnight in Bombay", released through C. S. Keshavlal.

anwari Jogan 50

Anwari in Aankhen 50

Aroon, Lila Chitnis and Pramila in Kanchan 41

1.

Khurshid and Vasantee star together in "Beti", a Ranjit picture, in Arun also gets his first big chance.

Aurut 40

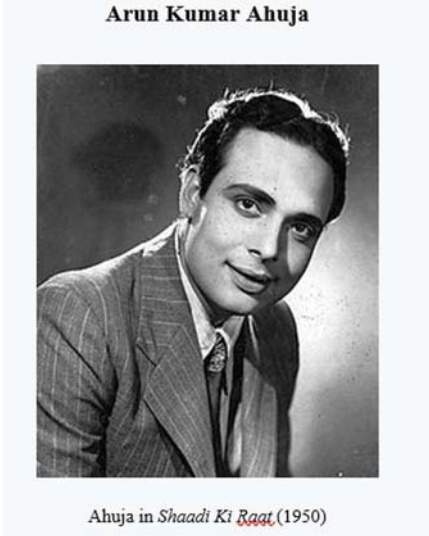
Aroon Aurut 40

1

A Shot from "The Only Way" featuring Aruna and Anuradha, a Sagar Picture now running at the Pathe Cinema.

8

Aroon Shamim in Toofan Mail 2

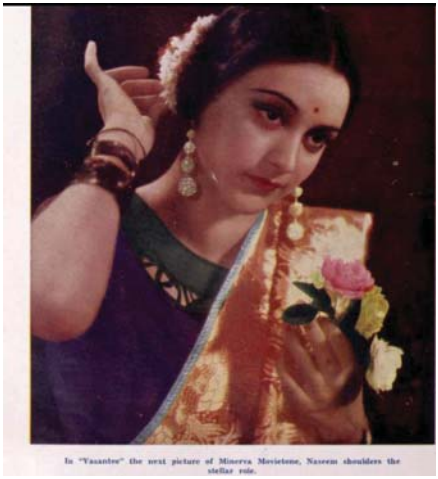


Arun Ahuje and Nirmala Devi

Amina

Naseem Bano 8

Naseem Bano



In "Vasantee" the next picture of Minerva Movietone, Naseem shoulders the stellar role.

Naseem Bano in Vasantee

...een of Beauty—Empress Nur Jehan, played by lovely Naseem in Minerva's "Pukar".

1939

Naseem Bano in pukar 39

Prithviraj is not reading the palm. He is just gi... a lover's promise to Naseem in "Ujala" a Taj M... social picture.

Naseem Bano in ujala

Anokhi Ada 48

Naseem Bano in Anokhi Ada 48

Ashalata in Jwala 38

Ashalata

Ashalata with Master Vinayak in Premveer 38

Ashalata

VINAYAK & ASHALATA—"A good looking young man is coming into your life. You'll love him when he is away and quarrel with him when he is with you".
An interesting situation from "Premveer" a Huns Picture—released at the Majestic

Ashalata with Master Vinayak in Premveer 38

Have you seen her look so beautiful before? Well! she Ashalata, the clinging hope of several fans. She will be soon seen as the love maid of Master Vinayak in "Prem Veer" a Huns Picture.

Ashalata in Prem Veer 38

Shyam Sunder in Dil Ki Rani 47

Shyam Sundar in Jungle ka Jawahar 52

Shyam Sundar in Veer Ghatotkach 9

Shyam Sunder in Hyderabad ki Nazneen 52

Ashik Hussein and Indurani in "Chasmawalli" a Mohan picture.

Ashik Hussain and Indurani in Chashmawali 39

Indu Rani and Ashik Hussein in "Chashmawali" a Mohan Picture.

Ashik Hussain with Indurani in Chasmawali 39

In "JOURNEY'S END" a Jaddan Bai production of Sangeet Film Company, Mehtab that popular old artiste stages a splendid come back. Here, she is seen with her hero— A. Hussein.

Ashik Hussain with Mehtab in Journey's end 37

A. Hoosain & Miss Suraiya in "Madame Fashion"

Ashik Hussain with Surraiya (Sr) in Madame Fashion

A Hussain and Urmila Devi in CALL OF THE SOUL a Sangeet Movietone Picture Running at the Majestic Cinema

Ashik Hussain with Urmila Devi in Call of the Soul 5

Baboorao Sansare in Narsi Mehta 40

Baboorao Sansare in Punarmillan 40

Baboorao Sansare in Dilrube 50

Balwant Singh in Padosi 40

Balwant Singh and Leela Desai make a new team in "Paraya Dhan", a Shree picture. 1943

Balwant Singh in Nirmala 38

Balwant Singh and Leela Desai in Paraya Dhan 43

Raj Nartaki 40

Pratima Dasgupta in Raj Nataki 40

Pratima Dasgupta in Raja 43

Pratima Dasgupta

Narsi Mehta 40

Daya Devi in Narsi Mehta 40

Daya Devi in man ke Ansoo 59

Daya Devi in Apna Hath Jagannath 60

Daya devi

Ila Devi

Ila Devi in Cat 38

Ila Devi in Chashmawali 38

1939

Ila Devi in Kahan Hai Manzil Teri 39

Ila Devi in Rickshawala in 38

Nirmala Devi

Nirmala Devi

Nirmala Devi 81

Lalita Deulkar in Navjeevan 39

Lalita Deulkar and Sudhir Fadke

Lalita Deulkar

Lalita Deulkar

Youseff Effendi in Khazanchi ka Beta 3

Mr. YUSUF EFFENDI All India Radio and well-known Screen Star

In Gawalani 's !937 Movie Insaf, Hero Youseffe effendi in Insaf 37

youseff Effendi in Bahana 42

Gulzar in Prem Nagar 40

Gulzaar in Dillagi 49

Harish in Aurut 40

Behan 42

Harish in Bahen 42

Nai Roshni 42

Harish in Nai Roshani

Harish and Nalini Jeywant in Bahen 42

M K Hassan in Diamond Queen 40

M K Hassan in Muquabla 42

M K Hassan in Jungle Princess 42

M K Hassan in Madhosh 51

Jagannath in Basant 42

Jagannath in Kismet 43

Milan 46

Jagannath in Milan 46

Punarmillan 40

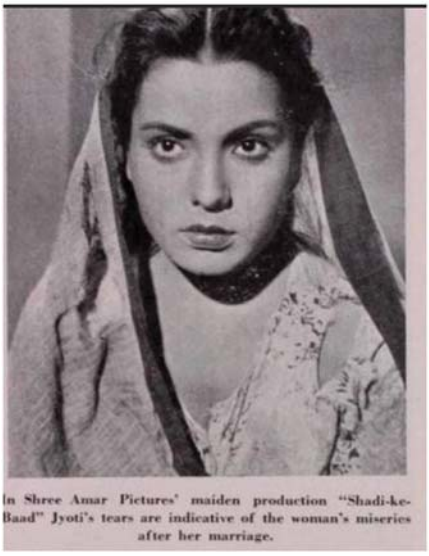
Jagannath in Punarmilan 40

Bandhan 40, Man on the right

Jagannath in Bandhan 40

1948

Jyoti in Dharkan 48


In Shree Amar Pictures' maiden production "Shadi-ke-
Baad" Jyoti's tears are indicative of the woman's miseries
after her marriage.

1948

Jyoti in Shadi ke Baad 48

Jyoti in Darshan 41

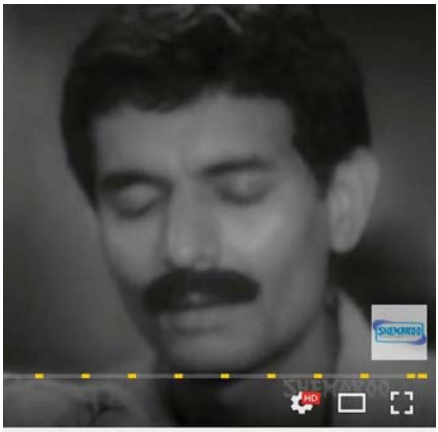
Jyoti in Aurut 40

Kalabati in Nartaki 40---on the right

Kamla Kumari in Jailor 39

Kamla Kumari in Kismet 43

Kanhaiyyalal in Aurut 40



Kanhaiyylal in Bahen 41

Lal Haveli 44

Kanhaiyyalal in Lal Haveli 44

kanhaiyyalal in Jeet 49

kanhaiyyalal in Hum Log 51

Kanhaiyyalal in Buzdil 51

Kanhaiyyalal in Mr Sampat 52

Kanhaiyyalal in Mother India 57

Khatoon in Prithwi Putra 38

Vatsala Kumthekar in Aurut 40

Vatsala Kumthekar in Abroo 43

Lal Haveli 44

Vatsala Kumthekar in Lal Haveli 44

Why is Chandramohan like that in "Geeta". The reason is close by in Vatsala Kumptekar. Pretty intriguing!

1940

Vatsala Kumthekar and Chandramohan in Geeta 0

Vatsala Kumptekar gives her usual lilting music in "Holiday In Bombay", a Sudama picture

1941

Vatsala Kumthekar in Holiday in Bombay 41

1942

Vatsala Kumthekar and

Yakub in Lalaji 42

Aurat 38

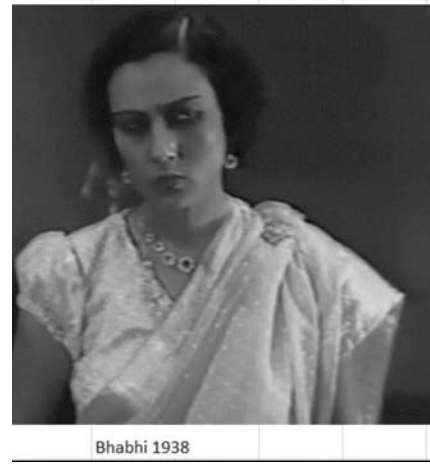
Meera in Aurut 38

Sansar 51 with Gulab

Meera in Sansar 51

Meera in Nirmala 38

Meera in Bhabhi 38



Renuka Devi in Bhabhi 38

Renuka Devi 39

Renuka Devi in Naya Sansar 41

Renuka Devi in Ghulami 42

Renuka Devi

Nandkishore Mehra in Nartaki 40

Miyan Mithoo in Diamond Queen 40

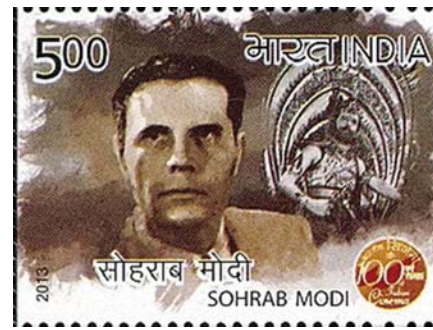
Miyan Mithoo in Jungle Princess 42

Sohrab Modi in Jailor 38

Sohrab Modi in Pukar 39

Sohrab Modi in Sikander 41

Sohrab Modi in Prithwi Ballabh 43



Sohrab Bodi

Sohrab Modi in Sheesh Mahal 50

Sohrab Modi in Yehudi 58

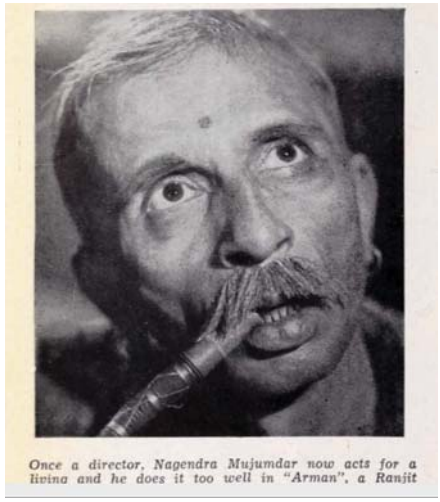
Sohrab Modi

Nagendra mazumdar in Prem Nagar 40

Nagendra Mazumdar in Tansen 43

agendra Mujumdar gives a good performance in "Bhartrihari", a Navin picture.

Nagendra Mazumdar in Bhartrihari 45


Once a director, Nagendra Mujumdar now acts for a living and he does it too well in "Arman", a Ranjit

Nagendra Mazumdar Arman 42

NoorJahan Sr

Nur Jehan does some rare vamping in "Sasural," a Ranjit picture.

Noorjehan Sr in Sasural 41

Miss Nurjahan, Enchanting and sweet in JAVAHIR - E - HIND (New India Movitone.)

Noorjahan in Jawahar e Hind 31

In "Fariyad", a Ranjit picture Nurjehan provides the usual sex-appeal.

Noorjahan Sr in Faryad 42

NUR JEHAN—

Noorjahan Sr in Ummeed 41

Noorjahan Sr

Pandey in Narsi Bhagat 40

Pandey in Ram-Rajya 43

Pandey in Bharat Milap 42

Parashuram in Dunya Na Maane 38

Parashuram in Basant Bahar 56

Parasuram in Gopal Krishna 38

Parashuram in Shakuntala 43

Parashuram in Bhagam Bhag 56

Prabha in Gramophone Singer 38

Prabha

Prabha in The Toy 41

Prabha

Two Mermaids from the Sagar—Snehprabha Pradhan and Prabha as they appear in "Civil Marriage" now nearing completion in the Studios.

Prabha in Civil Marriage 39

Snehprabha Pradhan in Punarmillan 40

Snehprabha has been needing this for long. She gets it from Gulab in "Pyas" a Murli picture.

Snehprabha Pradhan in Pyas 41

Snehprabha Pradhan

duplicate

duplicate

Khemchanda Prakash

Savitri (daughter), Khemchand Prakash, His wife and younger brother

H-Khemchand Prakash with family

Khemchand Prakash In Street Singer singing

'Le lo Madam Khana'

Khemchand Prakash in Street Singer 38

Pratima Devi in Bhabhi 38

Station Master 42

Pratima Devi in Station Master 42

Ek Din Ka Sultan 45

Pratima Devi in Ek Din Ka Sultan 45

Valmiki 46

Pratima Devi in Valmiki 46

Dr Kotnis ki Amar Kahani 46

Pratima Devi in Dr Kotnis ki Amar Kahani 46

Pratima Devi in Dard 47

Pratima Devi in Ziddi 48

Pratima Devi in Pagdee 48

Pratima Devi in Anokhi Ada 48

Sawan Aya Re 49

Pratima Devi in Sawan Aaya Re 49

Paras 49

Pratima Devi in Paras 49

Namoona 49

Pratima Devi in Namoona 49

Lahore 49 with Gulab on left

Pratima Devi in Lahore 49

Dulari 49

Pratima Devi in Dulari 49

Jogan 50

Pratima Devi in Jogan 50

Dastan 50

Pratima Devi in Dastan 50

Sanam 50 Pratima bai in the middle

Pratima Devi in Sanam 50

Pratima Devi in Albela 51

Pratima Devi in Aandhian 52

Pratima Devi in Kagan 39

Pratima Devi in Seedha Rasta 47

Rajani Rani in Nartaki 40

Brij Rani in Aurut 40

Brij Rani in Lal Haveli 46

Radha Rani in Diamond Queen 40

Diamond queen 40

Radha Rani in Diamond Queen 40

Radha Rani in Jungle Princess 42

1942 Badal

Radha Rani and Ghory appear together in "O Panchhi" a picture of Raja Movietone.

1944 O Panchi

Radha Rani in O Panchi 44

Radha Rani in Badal 42

Kishore Sahu in Punarmillan 40

Kishore Sahu in Sawan Aya Re 49

Namoona 50

Kishore Sahu in Namoona 50

Kali Ghata 51

Kishore Sahu in Kali Ghata 51

Kishore Sahu in Buzdil 51

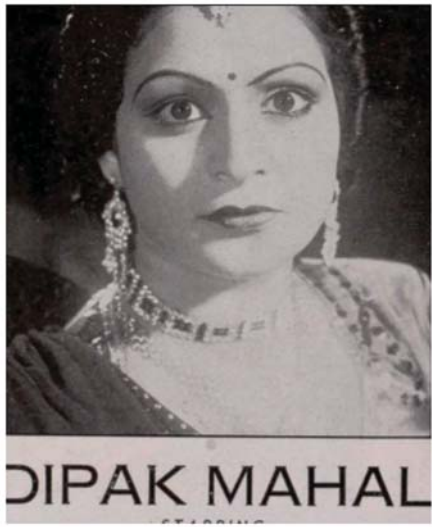
Kishore Sahu

Kishore Sahu

Kishore Sahu

Sarojini in Deepak Mahal 40

Sarojini in Sansar Nayya 39



Sarojini in Dipak Mahal 40

Sarojini as "Mumtaz Mahal" in "Taj Mahal", a costume picture of Mohan Pictures.

In Mumtaz Mahal 42

Sarojini in Mumtaz Mahal 42

From FilmIndia

Shamim

Jal Merchant, Lalita Pawar and Shamim make romance and intrigue in "Nirali Duniya" a Tarun picture at the Imperial Cinema, Bombay

Nirali Duniya 40

Shamim in Nirali Duniya 40

SHAMIM—
This new Ranjit starlet will grace a number of future productions and will
begin doing so with the social picture which comedian Charlie is himself directing

Dhandhora 41

Shamim in Dhandhora 41

Shamim

The Guest 42

amim ia The Guest 42

Pyas 42

Shamim in Pyas 42

Return of the Toofan Mail 42

Shamim in Return of The Toofan Mail 42

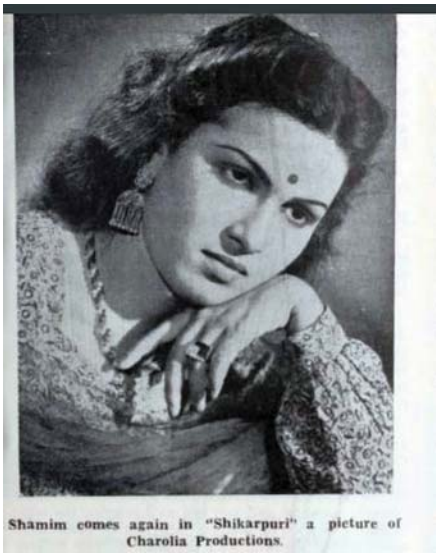
Arman 42

Shamim in the Arman 42

irector Kedar Sharma likes to give photo-teasers Here is Shamim with glorious youth in "Gowri", a Ranjit picture.

Gouri 43

Shamim in Gouri 43

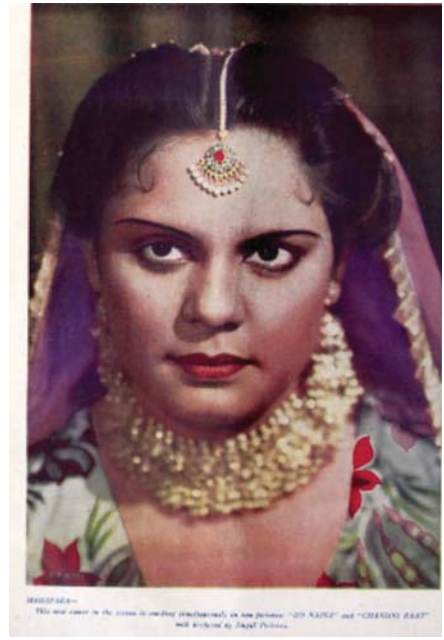


Shamim comes again in "Shikarpuri" a picture of Charolia Productions.

Shamim in Shikarpuri 46

Dastak 46

Shamim in Dastak 46



Shamim in 6

Shamim will capture all hearts in "Bhanwar" produced by Chitrabharati Ltd.

Shamim in Bhanwar 46

Kishore Sahu is once again in the saddle with Shamim for company in "Sindoor" a social theme of Filmistan.

Sindoor46

Shamin in Sindoor 46

Janardan Sharma in Narsi Bhagat 40

Janardan Sharma in Abroo 43

Sheela in Jailor 38

Sheela in Pukar 39

Sheela in Sikandar 41

Rama Shukul in Bhabhi 38

Rama Shukul in Navjeevan 39

Rama Shukul in Durga 39 Hero against Devika Rani

Azad 40

Rama Shukul in Azad 40

Rama Shukul in Village Girl 45

Sunalini Devi, one of our best character artistes, gives another splendid performance in "Kasoti" a National picture.

Sunalini Deni in Kasoti 41

Chandraprabha and Sunalini do look like daughter and mother in "Umang" a Praja picture.

Umang 44

Sunalini Devi in Umang 44

Sunalini Devi in Nadan 51

Sunalini Devi in Malhar 51

Sunalini Devi in Buzdil 51

Sunalini devi in Nau Bahar 52

Sunalini Devi

Sundar in Sagai 51

Sundar in Solva Sal 58

Sundar in Bahar 51

Sundar in Biwi o Biwi 81

Sundar in Albela 51

Sundar in Jal Pari 52

Sundar

Sundar

Sundar

Suresh in Bandhan 40

Suresh in Anjan 41

Suresh in Basant 42

Suresh in Dulari 49

Suresh in Dastaan 50

Suresh in Jadoo 51

Suresh in Diwana 52

Eurich Tarapore in Jailor 38

Eurich Tarapore in Mahal 49

Eurich Tarapore in Jailor 58

G L Vaid in Dushman 39

G L Vaid in Lagan 41

G L Vaid in Dhoop Chaon 35

Waheedan

Secretary 38

Waheedan in Secretary 38

Waheedan in Thokar 39

Prithwi Putra 38

Waheedan in Prithwi Putra 38

In "Rickshawalla" a Ranjit picture, Wahidan seems to tell some home truths to W will be on the screen at Bombay very shortly.

Rickshawwala 38

Waheedan in Rickshawwalla 38

waskar in Aurut 40

Waskar in Najma 43

Waskar in Roti 42

Waskar in Elan 47

Anokhi ada 48

waskar in Anokhi Ada 48

Andaz 49

Waskar in Andaz 49

Yasmin in Baghban 38

Yasmin in The Volunteer 39

Yasmin

Vimla Sardesai in Narsi Bhagat 40

Vimla Sardesai and Gireesh in "In Search of Happiness", the Huns picture (in Marathi and Hindustan now running at the Majestic Cinema.

Vimala Sardessai in In Search of Happiness

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sheo Khetan was born in Sitamarhi, Bihar in 1949. He did his BTech from IIT Kanpur. in 1970. He came to Stony Brook, NY in September 1970 and finished MS in Mechanical Engineering.

He then did an MBA in finance and continued working in the Semiconductor industry for next 32 years. In 2005, he was downed by a stroke. It took 6 months to recover. Since then, he turned to his original love, old Hindi movies. He has been married to Nirmala since 1976 and they have 4 boys, and 2 daughters-in-law and four grandchildren. Sons are Sanjay, Saurabh, Sameer and Sudhir. The two daughters-in-law are Deepa (Ms. Sanjay) and Sarmili (Ms. Sudhir).

His grandsons are Jaiden, Dilan and Koushik (both Covid boys) and granddaughter is Shreyash

OTHER BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR

For more information please visit
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